

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00278 251515Z

42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 251449Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4372

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T LUXEMBOURG 0278

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, SP, LU

SUBJ: SPAIN AND NATO

REF: A) STATE 091998; B) LUXEMBOURG 0272

1. ON APRIL 25 DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR PAUL MERTZ TOLD CHARGE WHAT PRIME MINISTER THORN'S OWN REACTION HAD BEEN WHEN OUR DEMARCHE (REFTEL B) WAS REPORTED TO HIM. AS EXPECTED, THORN EXPRESSED DEEP RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF TRYING TO TIGHTEN SPAIN/NATO TIES AT THE PRESENT TIME. HE STRESSED THE SEVERE PROBLEMS SUCH A MOVE WOULD GIVE HIM WITH HIS SOCIALIST COALITION PARTNERS, AND REITERATED HIS BELIEF THAT THE PRESENT MADRID GOVERNMENT DOES NOT DESERVE NATO RECOGNITION, GIVEN ITS LONG HISTORY OF ANTI-DEMOCRATIC AND REPRESSIVE BEHAVIOR. THORN ADDED HIS IMPRESSION THAT DESPITE ITS THREATS, THE SPANISH MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT WOULD NOT USE A SNUB FROM NATO AS AN EXCUSE TO EITHER sever TIES WITH THE WEST OR GO THE LEFTIST ROUTE OF PORTUGAL IN THE POST-FRANCO PERIOD.

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2. THORN EXPRESSED CERTAINTY THAT THE BENELUX AND

SCANDINAVIAN MEMBERS OF NATO WOULD SHARE HIS RESERVATIONS,  
BUT SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT STAND ALONE IN OPPOSING A  
CONSENSUS AT THE NATO SUMMIT IN FAVOR OF A DISCREET  
MENTION OF THE SPANISH CONTRIBUTION TO WESTERN SECURITY  
IN A FINAL COMMUNIQUE. HOWEVER, THORN WOULD PREFER A  
REFERENCE IN THE COMMUNIQUE TO THE VALUE TO ALLIANCE  
DEFENSE OF (UNIDENTIFIED) BILATERAL DEFENSE AGREEMENTS  
WITHIN THE NATO AREA. IF THIS IMPRECISE FORMULATION  
WERE ACCEPTABLE TO MADRID, THORN COULD LIVE WITH IT.  
TARNOFF

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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